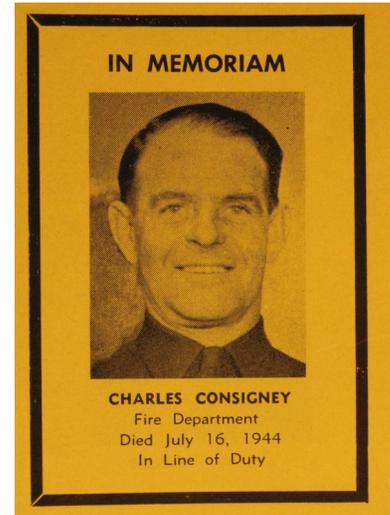




Apparatus Building was built in 1929.



There was no fire department or police department for nearly all of the history of our area. Only since the forming of a village was there any fire protection and that was next to useless until water mains with fire hydrants were activated. Until that time if the oil lamps or candles used for lighting caught the house or barn on fire all one could do was get out and try to save a few valuables. Everything you had would be destroyed. And there was no insurance. There were no phones to call for help. There was a volunteer fire department in Warren of sorts since probably the 1850s. First it was just farmers who would bring buckets and rush to a fire by horseback when they saw smoke in the sky. The history of the Warren Volunteer Fire Department was not written down so is mostly lost. There may have been a portable pump which could pull water out of a well or pond and spray it on to a fire or compressed air tank with chemicals in the tank.



The village hall was built in 1922 and a shet built next to it in 1925.

The Official Warren Volunteer Fire Department was organized April 4, 1926. It secured a Model T chassis and equipped it for firefighting. Later a second Model T was equipped with chemicals.

Later a Ford V8 truck was added with a 350 gallon tank 2500 feet of hose, ladders, hand extinguishers, axes and suction pump. I am still looking for early records. In 1944 the Chief was George Shoop with members Leo Roth, N. D. Eckstein, Floyd Rickabush, Peter Trombly, Ernie Steffens, Ray Lutz, Merton Lyons, Harold Squier, John Taylor, Don Cockerline and Howard Lyons. It was

housed in an east addition to the township hall on Beebe Street in 1946. Where it was before is unclear, but in 1992 the fire department moved out of the Village hall on Beebe.

In 1938 Chrysler Corporation donated a truck chassis. This was taken to General Detroit Fire Truck Corporation at 2272 East Jefferson and fitted as a fire truck. It was delivered to Warren Township on February 25th, 1939 and stored at Charles Blazier's Service Station at 21708 Van Dyke. George Schimmel converted his old gas station at 22730 van Dyke into a fire station and leased it to Warren Township. On May 20th 1939 the fire truck was moved to this station and became fire station No 1. In 1939 Warren's first fire station was built. Vern Lumex and William Van Hulle were hired as fireman. They still had volunteer firefighters. The Warren Fire Department went from all volunteer to two full time firefighters to a high of 184 in 1980. On May 20th 1939 William Vanhulle was named Fire Chief and Vern Lumex was appointed Firefighter. Tenmen were assigned as volunteer firefighters by Township Supervisor William Strich. Training began on May 12st. On June 15th 1939 the fire station was officially open to serve all of Warren Township.

Two Warren firefighters have lost their lives. CHARLES COGSIGNEY DIED 7/16/1944 Died in a barn fire.

HENRY K MORAN 1942-1973 involved in a car accident. He suffered closed head injuries and had to be confined to a nursing home.